



Peel 'n' Stick Disc Storage

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TOOLS:

- [Cloth \(1\)](#)
or paper towel
- [Hole punch \(1\)](#)
- [Marker \(1\)](#)
- [Measuring tape \(1\)](#)
and/or meterstick
- [Paper cutter \(1\)](#)
or knife and straightedge, or scissors
- [Printer \(1\)](#)



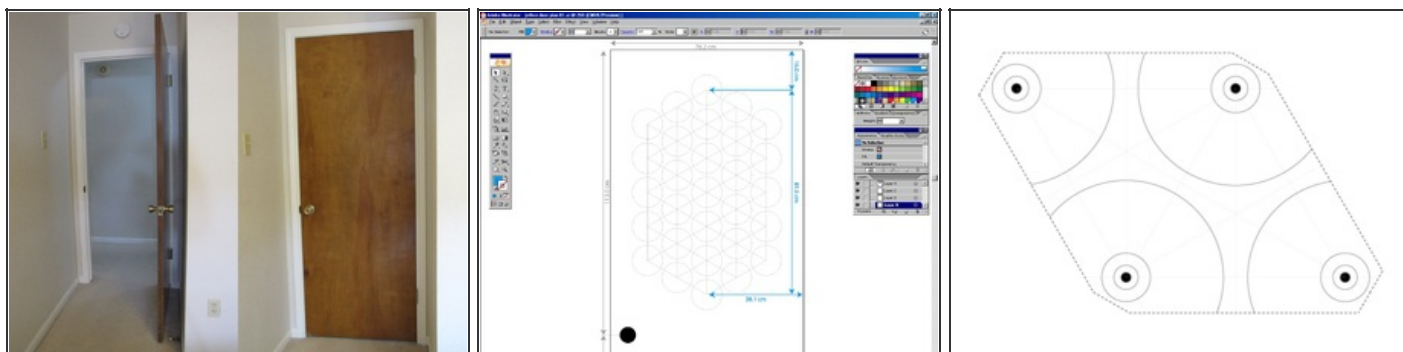
PARTS:



- [Adhesive CD/DVD hubs \(29\)](#)

SUMMARY

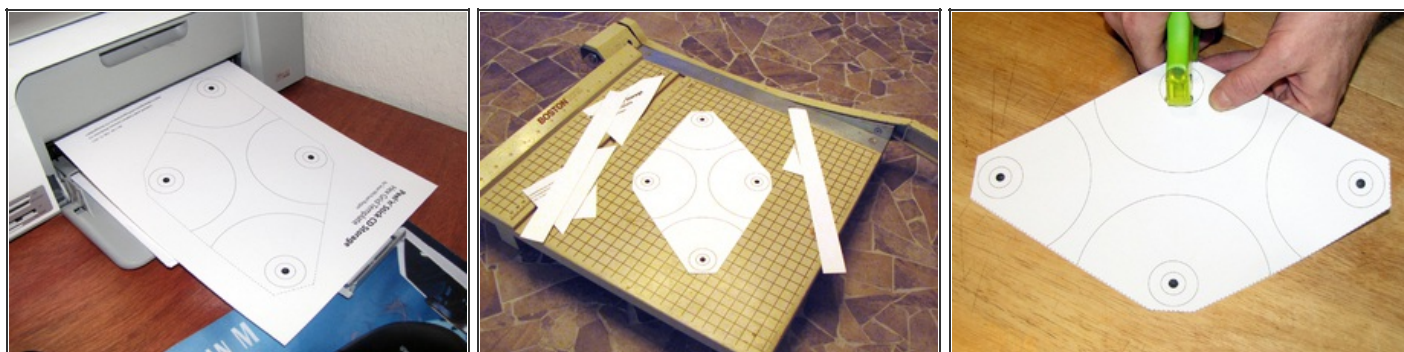
[These stick-on CD/DVD hubs](#) are marketed to publishers who want to include an optical disc in a book, card, folder, or other printed matter. They cost pennies apiece and, with the aid of the attached print-and-cut template, are easily arranged in a hexagonal grid on any smooth surface you might want to use for disc storage. Discs stored this way are easy to browse at a glance, without flipping pages, and don't take up space on a table or shelf.

Step 1 — Plan layout



- Choose a surface.
 - My home-office door is almost never closed and the back was not in great shape to begin with. I was therefore not too concerned about messing up the finish, but you may want to be more careful. 
 - The surface needs to be smooth enough for the hubs to stick. Besides a door, a mirror or a piece of cardboard or masonite hung on the wall would work.
- Draw a plan.
 - I used Adobe Illustrator to figure out how many discs I could fit on the door and how I wanted to lay them out, but [InkScape](#), [SketchUp](#), or plain old pen and paper would also work just fine.
 - A full-size CD is 120 mm across with a 15 mm hole. The template allows for 15 mm of clearance between CDs, as well, which puts them 135 mm apart on-center. 

Step 2 — Print and cut template




- Print template at full size on heavy paper.
- Cut out along dotted lines.
 - I used a swing-arm paper cutter, but a pair of scissors or an art knife and straightedge would work just as well.
- Punch holes.
 - If you cut the template edges accurately, a US-style single-hole punch centered on each short edge should put a hole in just the right place.
 - The holes do not have to be precisely positioned, so it's OK if you miss the black circle by a little bit.

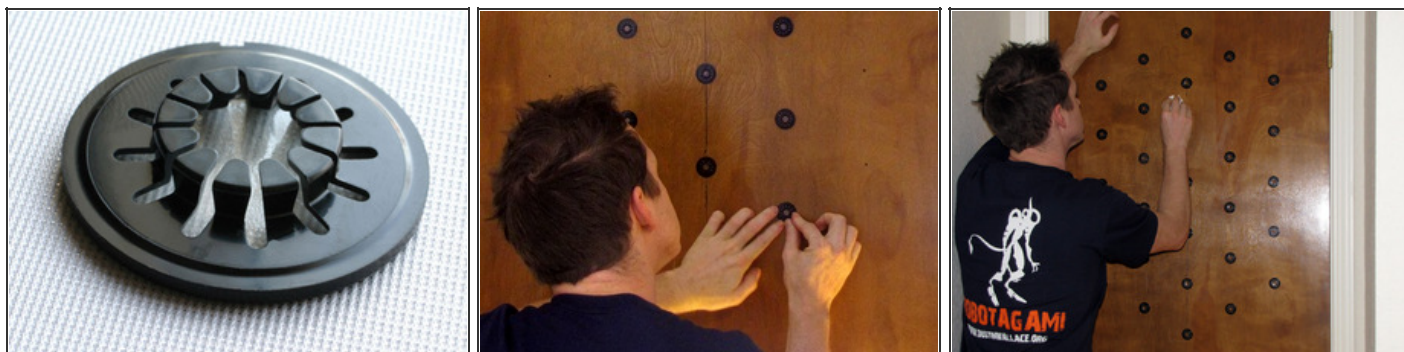


Step 3 — Lay out grid



- Use an erasable marker to do your layout work. You may want to perform a discrete test, first, to verify its erasability. I used a wet-erase overhead projection marker. 
- Measure and mark centerline and position of first CD.
 - I measured and marked the center of the door at the top edge, and right above the knob, and connected those two marks with a line.
 - Then I measured 16 cm down from the top edge, along the line, and made a witness mark to position the center of the top CD.
- Iterate template over surface and mark grid locations.
 - Start with your witness mark, and work along the centerline first.
 - Once you've got the center column of discs positioned, finish out toward the edges.

Step 4 — Affix hubs



- Peel the adhesive off the back of each hub, center it over one of your grid marks, and stick it in place.
- Once all the hubs are attached, erase any remaining layout marks, e.g. with a damp cloth.

Step 5 — Use it



- Click your discs onto the hubs, and you're done!

It remains to be seen how well the adhesive on the hubs will hold up over time. If this were a door that were frequently opened and closed, I might be a bit more concerned about the hubs eventually working loose and falling off. Stay tuned for updates.

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